

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Supplemental to the amendments made in the July 20, 2005 Preliminary Amendment, please replace the Summary of Invention section on page 3, line 23 through page 7, line 10 with the following amended section:

-- An object of the present invention is to solve the above-described drawbacks.

Another object of the present invention is to provide, in data communication system, apparatus and method and a computer readable storing medium therefor, a technology allowing to easily detect the transfer rate available between two or more electronic devices without requiring complex analysis.

As a preferred embodiment for such objects, the present invention discloses a data communication apparatus, comprising:

- a) a communication unit having different transfer rates and adapted to transmit a predetermined packet to ~~all of~~ a plurality of destination apparatuses using at least one of the different transfer rates; and
- b) a control unit adapted to determine one of the different transfer rates as a maximum transfer rate between the communication apparatus and ~~all of~~ the plurality of destination apparatuses ~~after responses if a response corresponding~~ to the predetermined packet [[are]] ~~is~~ received from [[all]] each one of the plurality of destination apparatuses.

As another preferred embodiment the present invention discloses a data communication method, comprising the steps of:

- a) transmitting a predetermined packet to ~~all~~<sup>of</sup> a plurality of destination apparatuses using at least one of the different transfer rates; and
- b) determining a maximum transfer rate between the communication apparatus and ~~all~~<sup>of</sup> the plurality of destination apparatuses ~~after responses if a response corresponding~~ to the predetermined packet [[are]] ~~is~~ received from [[all]] ~~each one~~ of the plurality of destination apparatuses.

Still other objects of the present invention, and the advantages thereof, will become fully apparent from the following detailed description of the embodiments.--